

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Published Since 1877

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1983

Volume CVII, Number 43

Since invasion

"It's been kind of hectic," reports Grenada missionary

By Erich Bridges

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada (BP)—Carter Davis had quite a month.

The Southern Baptist missionary dentist in Grenada witnessed an invasion of the island, said goodbye to his wife as she was evacuated by airlift, laid low for days to avoid being shot at, saw his dental clinic become a temporary camp for U.S. troops, and worked feverishly to set up a relief ministry.

"It's been kind of hectic," Davis reported with a rueful laugh Nov. 18. It was his first direct telephone contact with the Foreign Mission Board since the Oct. 25 invasion of Grenada by U.S. and Caribbean forces. He spoke from a public telephone in St. George's. Phone service to the area around his home is

not expected to be restored for several months.

His wife, Charlotte, missionary Robin Eberhardt and her son, David, returned from the United States Nov. 9. Two Southern Baptist dentists, Jack Fuson and William Davis, both of Knoxville, Tenn., followed a few days later. Davis and missionary Michael Eberhardt never left the island.

The two volunteer dentists worked with Davis in government clinics around the island, treating hundreds of patients. Public service radio announcements publicized their work.

The extra help has allowed Davis, one of only two dentists living in Grenada since the exodus of Cuban health

workers, to reopen his Baptist clinic. Davis practiced with the Ministry of Health the week before the volunteers arrived. During the post-invasion food shortage Davis and Eberhardt provided about 40 families with flour, rice, sugar, and powdered milk. Now they're coordinating Grenadian Baptist construction teams who will use \$5,000 in Southern Baptist relief funds to repair war-damaged homes.

"These families we are going to assist initially are in houses which are damaged but repairable," Davis said. "Some other homes in the same area have been destroyed so we are looking for ways we might utilize volunteer construction teams from the States.

Right now men in our churches are going to be helping these families repair their homes."

Davis is also asking the Foreign Mission Board to find a volunteer surgeon, pediatrician, ear-nose-throat specialist, and more dentists to come to Grenada beginning in January. The original request came from the Grenadian Ministry of Health since a serious health care shortage has developed with the Cuban departure.

Life is beginning to return to some semblance of order for the Davises and Eberhardts. But the two men laid low during the fighting.

"I went across the road to a neighbor's house once or a couple of times," Davis said. "But we didn't try to move around. Near where we live there was a lot of uninhabited ground along one stretch of road, and there was a lot of shooting on that ridge between American forces and the People's Revolutionary Army and Cuban troops. It just wasn't safe to move along that road."

Eberhardt later discovered the son (a Grenadian militiaman) of a member of a Bible study he teaches was killed during the fighting. His father and other members of the Bible study expressed bitterness and hostility toward Americans, including Eberhardt, after the fighting.

The general feeling among Grenadians on the street and in the churches, however, is relief and gratitude toward the U.S. and Caribbean forces, Davis reported.

(Bridges writes for the Foreign Mission Board.)

Cooperative Program takes center stage at Convention

Messengers to the Mississippi Baptist Convention in session Nov. 14-16, voted on a number of Cooperative Program-related items. They adopted a convention board recommendation to continue their participation in Bold Mission Thrust which is an effort to present the gospel message to all persons by the year 2000. They resolved to seek to elevate Cooperative Program giving and voted to participate in a planned giving increase program, and took note that 1983-84 is the Year of the Cooperative Program in Mississippi.

The emphasis for the Southern Baptist Convention for 1982-85 is Reaching People, Developing Believers, and Strengthening Families. The 1985-90

cycle will launch a new emphasis called Strengthening Missions.

In response to that missions emphasis, the convention voted to continue the one-half percent increase each year to world missions giving "bringing us to 37.5 percent by 1990," said the recommendation.

Messengers adopted without dissent a \$16,485,000 1984 budget, of which 35 percent will go to the SBC Cooperative Program causes. The budget for 1983 is \$15,071,000, with 34.5 percent to the SBC. The budgeted increase for 1984 is 9.4 percent over 1983.

The convention voted to join the Southern Baptist Convention in the 15-year emphasis called "Planned

Growth in Giving," a plan for increasing Cooperative Program giving across the convention.

Another board recommendation, in the form of a resolution, was adopted by messengers. Commenting on the history of the Cooperative Program, the resolution stated that "We hereby covenant to declare this program of cooperation to be self-evident of our denominational unity and a manifestation of our vision for the future under the Lordship of Christ, and that we therefore further recommit ourselves in prayer to that trust, sacrifice, and resolve necessary for the responsible expression of our life together in Christ (Continued on page 4)



Mississippi Baptist Convention leaders (from left) sign the Declaration of Cooperation during convention sessions recently. They are Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer; Charles Pickering, outgoing convention board president and new MBC president; J. T. Hannaford, former second vice president; Paul Harwood, assistant recording secretary; Ingram Foster, finance committee chairman; James Yates, former convention president; Clarke Hensley, recording secretary; and James Hurt, former first vice president.

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A life well lived

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Keith Williams joins convention board staff

Keith Williams has been named as adult consultant for the Sunday School Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, according to an announcement by Keith Wilkinson, director of the department.

Williams, who is minister of education and outreach for the Englewood Church, Jackson, Tenn., will assume his duties in Mississippi on Dec. 12.

He was born in Du Quoin, Ill., and received a B.S. degree from Union University, Jackson, Tenn., and M.R.E. degree from Southwestern

Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.

His previous experience includes being minister of youth and activities at First Church, Halls, Tenn.; preschool coordinator, Burton Hill Church, Fort Worth; and minister of education at First Church, Wills Point, Tex. Currently he is serving the Madison-Chester Association in Tennessee as the adult ASSIST team member. He has led conferences and participated in enrollment/enlargement campaigns in Tennessee and at the Metro-Clinic in Tulsa, Okla. At Union University, he has taught courses in religious education.

Williams is married to the former Carol Wise of Trezevant, Tenn. They have a daughter, Allison Suzanne, age 3.



Williams

Prayer list for FMB full of great needs

RICHMOND, Va.—Pray that Christmas programs at the Baptist Student Center in Bangkok, Thailand, will be effective. The Thai student ministry saw 35 students make professions of faith in Christ last year.

Join the Baptist Theological Seminary of Zimbabwe in praying for at least 10 new students to enroll in its theology programs in January. Pray for arrangements to be made to receive men from Mozambique in the Zimbabwe seminary.

Christmas holidays lead up to the Colombian Baptist Convention annual meeting in Bogota January 2-6, 1984. Pray for a spiritual awakening which will result in more people being won to Christ. The following week pastors and their wives will have a four day spiritual retreat.

Pray that the December annual meeting of the British Virgin Island Baptist Association will be a spiritual blessing. Also pray for conversions to result from the soul-winning teams started in several island churches, and for growth in a new church in Roadtown, Tortola, British Virgin Islands.

The Christmas prayer request from the French West Indies Baptist Mission is very specific, that God will call 12 men to be pastors of the churches on the island of Guadeloupe and Martinique. (Continued on page 4)

"Everybody pitched in"

Church, TV station reunite mom, dying daughter

By Bill Roberson and Marty Croll

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP)—The frail, white-haired lady stepped off a Boeing 747 airliner clutching her only luggage—a purse. It was her first time off Philippine soil.

Mamerta Dauba had come to America to be with her dying daughter, Lucina. For Lucina, the reunion was a miracle—in which disconnected people, places and times were gathered into a single event.

"Don't tell me I don't serve a big God. I do," said Lori Andrews, an Alabama Baptist whose television coverage of the event played a large part in its happening at all. "I couldn't have been more convinced it was a miracle if 10,000 angels had flown off the plane with her."

Andrews witnessed Lucina Collins' reunion with her mom along with several of Lucina's Baptist friends who had worked to bring Mrs. Dauba to America as a response to Lucina's last request. Mrs. Dauba arrived in time to spend a month with Lucina before she died Sept. 19.

Andrews heard of Lucina's request from Ann McDaniel, a member of First Baptist Church, Riverside, about 35

miles east of Birmingham. McDaniel asked Andrews' TV station to use its troubleshooting program, "Channel 6 on Your Side," to help make arrangements for Mrs. Dauba to come to Lucina's deathbed.

"At first we thought, 'Boy, this is going to be a simple one,'" said Andrews, a member of Shades Mountain Baptist Church outside Birmingham. "But the more we delved into it and began working on it, we began to realize what was involved."

It became clear that bringing a 73-year-old lady from her rural island home and flying her 10,000 miles was to be no easy task. But the women of First Baptist waged a campaign of prayer and diligence for nearly two months.

They opened an account in a Riverside bank and told people throughout neighboring communities money could be deposited there. They approached the First Baptist churches of Pell City and Cropwell, and Peace and Goodwill Church, Riverside. They knocked on doors of homes and businesses.

"Everybody just pitched in. We wanted to show Lucina

she was in a country where we loved people, where it didn't make any difference who you are," McDaniel said.

Meanwhile, Andrews went to work to locate Mrs. Dauba. The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in Richmond, Va., put her in touch with missionaries of the Philippine Baptist Mission in Manila, who contacted a representative of the General Conference Baptist Mission on Cebu, the long narrow island where Mrs. Dauba lives.

The representative, Roy Nelson, recalled his household helper grew up in Mrs. Dauba's village. Later he learned his helper actually knew her.

As Lucina Collins battled a cancer-induced fever of 107 degrees and imminent death in Alabama, word went to Mrs. Dauba that her daughter needed her.

Since Mrs. Dauba spoke only Cebuano and had never left the island, the possibility of her coming grew slim as days went by.

But missionaries in Manila made travel arrangements and when the plane from Cebu landed, Mrs. Dauba, frightened and speechless from her first flight, emerged.

Back in Alabama, Andrews had shared the story with a lawyer. It so happened he had attended school in Austria with Victor Reyes, now an international attorney in Manila. Reyes was contacted to help speed the process of securing Mrs. Dauba's travel documents.

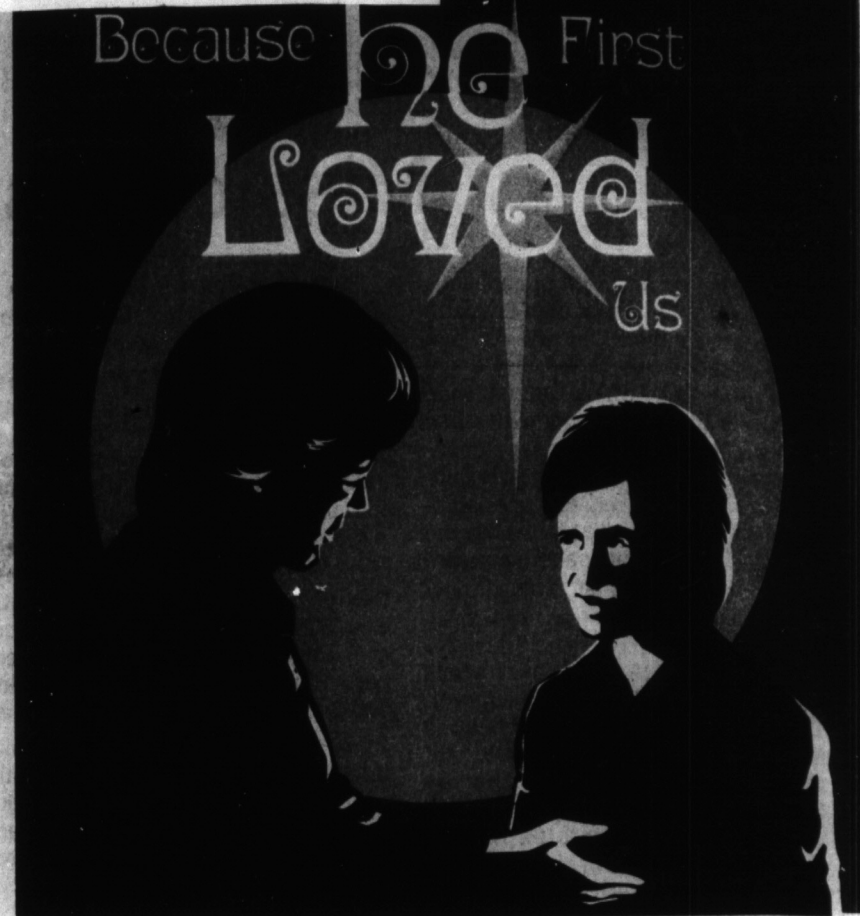
Lucina herself was waiting at the airport, released from the hospital days before. She and several of the women from First Baptist were flanked by television cameras from Channel 6, filming the successful completion of the station's task.

"Lucina was sitting there in her wheelchair, and when her mother came walking up, she just lit up," said McDaniel. Lucina had not seen her mother since leaving home more than 10 years earlier to start a family with Timmie Collins.

"Her mother walked up to her and held her face," Andrews said. "She kissed her, and then scooted her off to the side. And then just stayed there, and held Lucina in her arms."

"I got down on my knees and thanked God for a miracle."

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Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering
National Goal: \$60,000,000

Less than one-third of world is Christian

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—For the 92nd consecutive year, Southern Baptists prepare to observe the Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions.

December 4-11 will be a time of cooperative learning about and study for missions, in addition to giving through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Churches across the convention will set individual goals to do their part in helping reach the national \$60,000,000 offering goal.

The theme for this year's week of prayer is "Because He First Loved Us." These familiar words, however, become more than just a catch phrase when heard in conjunction with some important missions facts:

In the 223 nations on earth today, 32.6 percent of the 4.5 billion people are

Christians. The total Christian community is adding new believers at the rate of approximately 23 million a year.

Churches must win new persons at the rate of 45 million every year between now and A.D. 2000 just to stay even with population growth.

In 1982, the Foreign Mission Board appointed 406 new Southern Baptist missionaries, a 2.58 percent increase. In order to keep up with the Bold Mission Thrust goal of having 5,000 missionaries overseas by the turn of the century, a 3 percent annual personnel gain is necessary for this decade.

During 1982, Southern Baptists channeled \$110.2 million through the Foreign Mission Board to enable people across the world to hear the gospel. (Continued on page 4)

by don mcgregor

CHART A COURSE TO NEW WORK

We must not neglect its importance

Convention adopts proposed amendments

Twice blest: an open letter

Our goal this year is \$60 million—well under \$5 for each of us Southern Baptists. Big deal . . . especially for dollars that are "twice blest." Why don't we double the blessings—on both ends?

William N. McElrath is a missionary in Indonesia.

Bellevue to move to suburb site

(Roy Jennings is director of communications at Baptist Memorial Hospital in Memphis, Tenn.)

Letters to the Editor

Subscriptions: \$7.35 a year payable in advance.
 Single copies: 75¢; except week of July 4 and

Woolmarket Baptist Church, in Har

Already this year, we have seen
people saved every Sunday in our

Piano for Parchman

Dan C. Hall, Director
Church Music Department
Mississippi Baptist

Already this year, we have seen people saved every Sunday in our

The Baptist bodies to which Southern Baptist missionaries related established 700 new churches last year, an average of 13 per week.

New Amendments

Constitution and Bylaws Committee members were David E. Hall, Chairman; Nathan Barber; Alan Day; Bradley Pope; and Mrs. Charles Tyler.

Pray for MKs

Dec. 24—John W. Whitten (Spain)
University of Madrid.

Book Reviews

THE WOODS ARE FULL OF PRAYERS, Selections from the Published Poems of Violet Tackett (Lorrah & Hitchcock, Murray, Ky., 48 pp., \$4) In time for Christmas shoppers who'd like a book of poetry to give someone, this fine little volume was written by a Mississippian. In fact, the author, Violet Tackett, has contributed many poems through the years to the Baptist Record's "Scrapbook," and a few of the poems in the book were previously printed there. Mrs. Tackett, a member of Friendship Baptist Church, McComb, has also written children's stories, articles, and short stories, some of them published in national magazines. While working as a government secretary in New Orleans, she began writing poetry, and has continued to write following disability retirement and her move to "the old home place" near McComb, where she lives with her mother. Her husband died many years ago.

This collection contains several Christmas and Thanksgiving poems, as well as those on nature, children, mothers, and various other subjects. As Phyllis Perrin Wilcox, professor at the University of New Mexico, pointed

Who but Violet Tackett could produce phrases like "step Indian-soft on pine carpet" and "a heartful of snow so soft it melted on my bare skinny arms"?

THE WOODS ARE FULL OF PRAYERS is available from the author by check or money order for \$4. Write Violet Tackett, Route 1, Box 171, McCormick, Miss. 39658. AWM

"It's the only reality that I can find"



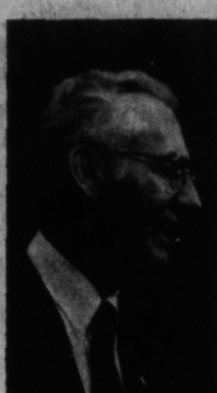
Cating and Hurt

Christian testimonies were given at each session of the Mississippi Baptist Convention. Here are excerpts from the testimonies.

Keith Cating, BSU director at Ole Miss: After he "finally came to realize my delight was in basketball, not in the Lord," Cating gave up basketball. He led a group of Mississippians last year



Mrs. Williams



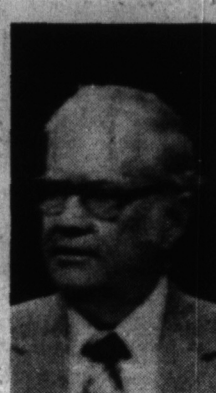
Burks



Griffin



Upchurch



Lee

to Paraguay for a missions-basketball trip where "over 40 people accepted Christ on a basketball court." In the one column picture, Cating presents a trophy from that trip to convention first vice president, James Hurt.

Wayne Burks, pastor of Bolton Church and a state senator: A reporter asked him if the senate was an extension of his ministry. "Everything that one does is an extension of his or her ministry," said Burks. "If we try to separate what we do on the other six

days, then we'll not have an effective ministry."

Robert Upchurch, a Tupelo layman: Active in church, Upchurch said he found himself saying, "I rationalized, 'If I'm not saved, who is?'" He said he realized he had given his head, but not his heart to Jesus. "It's frightening to think I was so religious and so lost."

Chester Griffin Jr., wing commander, Columbus Air Force Base: "For me, knowing God through Jesus ... works. It's the only reality in existence

that I can find."

George Lee, director of missions for Marion, Walthall, and Lawrence Counties: At a time when he was very ill, "I began building my life around that personal experience with God ... and found inner peace."

Mrs. Rebecca Williams, wife of the pastor of First Church, Gautier: "I find great joy in being my pastor's wife. I still stand in awe of his great calling."

Record staffer's mother dies

Mrs. Mary Keyes, of Jackson, mother of Evelyn Keyes of the Baptist Record staff, died last week following a short illness. She was 83.

Funeral services were held Friday of last week in Jackson at the Baldwin, Lee, and Barnes Southwest Chapel and graveside services were held at the Hickory Grove Cemetery in Laurel. She had been a long-time resident of Laurel before moving to Jackson in 1966. That was the year her daughter was employed by the Baptist Record.

Mrs. Keyes was a member of Oak Forest Church in Jackson. The pastor, Tom Hudson, had charge of the services both at the funeral chapel and at the cemetery.

Others who survive Mrs. Keyes are a son, Robert, of Birmingham, Ala.; and three daughters, Mrs. A. V. Cheeks of Pascagoula, and Mrs. Dave Ross and Miss Peggy Keyes of Jackson. There is a sister in Conroe, Texas, and four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Center relocates

MACON, Ga. (BP)—The Center for Constitutional Studies, which has been at the University of Notre Dame, has relocated at Mercer University in Macon, Ga.

The center provides basic legal scholarship and selected advocacy activities in support of religiously affiliated and other independent higher education. With its broadly based national constituency, the center has become a widely respected voice in legal scholarship.

Thursday, December 1, 1983

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 3

Convention committees elected and appointed

Special committees serve either during the Mississippi Baptist Convention or after the convention and throughout the year. A number of these committees were elected or appointed this year.

The teller's committee and parliamentarian are appointed by the president to serve during the convention. James Yates appointed Charles Pickering as parliamentarian and named to the teller's committee Bill McCreary, Kilmichael; Jim Everett, Benton; William Jenkins, Cleveland; Al Homer, Yazoo City; and Eddie Hamilton, chairman, Carthage.

The resolutions committee serving this year consisted of James Street, chairman, Cleveland; Bill Baker, Clinton; Mrs. Billy Williams, Gautier; Terrell Suggs, Union; Joel Haire, Crystal Springs; Joel Ray, Hattiesburg; Billy Murphy, Laurel; and Russell Bush, Columbia.

Elected to the order of business committee were J. W. Brister, Jackson; and Gordon Harold Sansing, Vicksburg.

Next year's committee on nominations will include Bartis Harper, Tyler; David Perry, Brookhaven; G. A. McCoy, Picayune; William P. Smith III, Tupelo; and Walter Yeldell, Greenwood.

The committee on constitution and bylaws includes Mrs. Charles Tyler, Collins; James Richardson, Madison; Ken Marler, Houston; Tim Rayborn, Monticello; and John Allen, Richton.

New members of the Baptist Record advisory committee include Bruce Hill, Lexington; and Owen Lusk, Columbia.

Serving on the time, place, and preacher committee were Ed McDaniel, Greenwood; Fred Robertson, Vicksburg; Jackie Hamilton, Meridian; Odie Henderson, Cleveland; and Larry Fields, Tupelo.

President Yates named next year's committee on committees as Joel Haire, chairman, Crystal Springs; Mrs. Ingram Foster, Prentiss; William Waddle, Grenada; James Ruffin, Meridian; and Milton Burd, Cleveland.

Messengers affirm new trustees, Board members

The Committee on Nominations presented names of new Mississippi Baptist Convention Board members and trustees of Baptist institutions to be voted on by convention members. The following were elected.

The Committee on Nominations included John McCall, chairman; Bartis Harper; Mrs. Vincent Scoper, Jr.; Charles Stubblefield; and Larry Thornton.

CONVENTION BOARD MEMBERS

Association	Town
Adams, Odessa Puckett	Natchez
Alcorn, Charles Dill	Corinth
Benton, Phillip Bray	Ashland
Coahoma, Donald Dunavant	Clarksdale
Copiah, Ray Grillo	Crystal Springs
Hinds, W. B. Rives	Jackson
Holmes, Bobby Clark	Tchula
Issaquena, W. D. Kirk	Valley Park
Itawamba, Ed Deuschle	Fulton
Jefferson, Charles Tyler	Vicksburg
Jefferson Davis, Tommy Arlander	Bassfield
Lamar, Dennis Smith	Surrell
Leflore, Ed McDaniel	Greenwood
Lincoln, Paul Wilson	Brookhaven
Marion, Mrs. Uhl Patterson	Columbia
Marshall, Dennis Stewart	Holly Springs
Montgomery, Jerry Mixon	Winona
Newton, W. L. Compere	Starkville
Oktibbeha, C. Truitt Roberts	Booneville
Prentiss, Milton Koon	Vance
Quitman, Jimmy Moore	Forest
Rankin, Curtis L. Williams	Leland
Simpson, Billy Guest	Magee
Sunflower, Frank Baker	Indianola
Tallahatchie, Donald O'Quinn	Charleston
Tate, Cecil Cole	Senatobia

Tippah, James A. Lewis	Blue Mountain
Tishomingo, Tom Ozburn	Belmont
Walthall, Bartis Harper	Tylertown
Wayne, Larry Ballard	Waynesboro
Webster, Dwight Brown	Maben
Yalobusha, Buford Sellers	Oakland
Yazoo, Wayne Kimbrough	Yazoo City

AT LARGE BOARD MEMBERS

Hinds, Gary Richardson	Jackson
Jackson, Roy Phillips	Ocean Springs
Lowndes, James Gatewood	Columbus
New Choctaw, Thomas Nickey	Conehatta
Rankin, Robert Jackson	Brandon
BOARD OF MINISTERIAL EDUCATION	
Term Expires 1986	

Jack Glaze	Clinton
Mrs. John D. (Ollie) Thomas	Hattiesburg
Mrs. J. W. (Jean) Thrash	Decatur
CHRISTIAN ACTION COMMISSION	
Term Expires 1986	

Mrs. Howard Taylor	Pascagoula
Jeanette Phillips	Oxford
EDUCATION COMMISSION	
Term Expires 1986	

John Brock	Jackson
William Stewart	Esopora
Eddie M. Smith	Wesson
Robert Patterson, Jr.	Jackson
HISTORICAL COMMISSION	
Term Expires 1986	

Mrs. Marvin T. (Jean) Bond	Starkville
Maurice Flowers	Laurel
BAPTIST CHILDREN'S VILLAGE	
Term Expires 1985	

Robert W. King	Jackson
Term Expires 1986	
E. R. Bond	Gulfport
Ralph Hester	Jackson
Fred Gaddis	Forest
Mrs. Dot Walker	Leland
Harry Lacey	Hattiesburg
BAPTIST FOUNDATION	
Term Expires 1986	

Charles Lofton	Brookhaven
Paul V. Breazale	Jackson
James Fleming	Crystal Springs
BAPTIST MEDICAL CENTER	
Term Expires 1986	

Henry Holman	Jackson
W. P. McMullen Jr.	Jackson
Mrs. Joan Tyler	Collins
Zach T. Hederman	Jackson
Allen O. Webb	Pascagoula

BAPTIST MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Clarence L. Stanford	Ripley
James Richardson	Madison
Herbert T. Conley	Corinth
BLUE MOUNTAIN COLLEGE	
Term Expires 1986	

O. H. Kerr	Tupelo
Mrs. R. L. Kemp, Jr.	Columbia
Rex Vance	Quitman
Mrs. W. L. (Martin Lynn) Brigham	Yazoo City
Mrs. Edward C. Bourland	Amory

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE

Victor Walsh	McComb
Kelley Bryan	Greenwood
Aven Whittington	Vicksburg
Gordon H. Sansing	Yazoo City
James Yates	Yazoo City

WILLIAM CAREY COLLEGE

James Hester	Laurel
Mrs. Clyde Bryan	Jackson
Tommy King	Columbia
David Lee	Gautier
Roger Stroud	Tylertown

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST SEMINARY

Wayne O. Burks	Bolton
David Michel	Prentiss
Stan Rushing	Leland

Faces And Places by anne washburn mcwilliams

What will Lottie do in Bangladesh?

Of eight Southern Baptist missionary couples in Bangladesh, four are from Mississippi—the Biens, the Buckleys, the Youngs, the Thurmans.

Tom and Gloria Thurman are living at 416 Ford St., Columbia, while on furlough, in First Church's missionary house. W. D. and I ate lunch with them there Nov. 2; they had just finished four world missions conferences in a row.

"In Bangladesh, all of us go around with a Bible in one hand and an ag manual in the other," Tom said. "We all spend 30 percent of our time in food projects—fish, ducks, goats. . . ." (These projects were described in the August Commission.) "Bangladesh, they say, is ten miles beyond the Great Commission—to the end of the earth and then ten miles more."

Imagine 96 million people in a country little bigger than Arkansas. Mostly Muslims. Some Hindus. A few Christians. Imagine rice fields and river boats, saris and lungis, black-veiled women, bazaars with fly-covered meat, painted rickshaws, overpacked buses, men carrying loads on their heads. The courageous Bengalis have suffered through cyclones, tidal waves, war, floods from Himalayan snowmelt, poverty, and famine. Among them, the Thurmans live at

Gopalganj, a riverside town, long and narrow like a shoestring.

Tom is a general evangelist. He and Gloria minister, physically and spiritually. "Never could we meet all the needs. We just try to do what we can," he said. For example, when they could have used 50,000 blankets, they had 500 to give away, so they went out and laid them on the first 500 persons they found sleeping in the streets or under trees. "Some may have sold them to buy food, but who could blame them, when a week's wage is \$2 and a blanket might sell for \$4?"

Gloria added, "We give out rice at our house on Friday nights—1/2 cupful to all who ask. Usually 35 or 40 will come."

Also she endeavors to teach health care. Tom said he plans to take a microscope back to show what germs look like. Many of the few doctors are incompetent, so when Gloria sends a sick person to a doctor, she sends a note along, like, "Don't you think this patient needs a shot of penicillin?" Once she loaned a doctor a sterilized needle for vaccinations he was giving. Promptly he wiped it on the cloth where he'd been wiping his unsterile one.

From Gloria's kitchen in Columbia wafted the rich aroma of rice and cur-



JAMES YOUNG (center) is one of Mississippi's sons serving as a missionary in Bangladesh. Born in Thomastown, he is married to the former Guinevere Jenkins of Kosciusko. Before being appointed in 1969, he served churches in Lena, Good Hope, and Stewart. In Bangladesh, he is a field evangelist working with 15 villages. The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions helps to make his work possible. (FMB) PHOTO By Don Rutledge

ry. Already the Thurman boys had asked their mother if they might eat it with their hands for supper, Bengali style. Philip, 15, and David, 14, were in school in Columbia (11th and 8th grades) and we didn't get to meet them. Back in Asia, they travel a long way—1,500 miles—to Woodstock School in north India. David has red hair, which amazes the dark-haired Bengalis. Tom said he heard two men discussing it one day; one explained, "It just happens sometimes."

At Gopalganj, the Thurmans have electricity, though it is prone to go off fairly often. For water, they have a 400-gallon tank on the roof; a hand pump gives employment to men who come to work it.

Tom preaches in many villages, traveling often by riverboat. In recent years, the people have been more responsive to the gospel message—particularly the minority group of low-caste Hindus, who feel discriminated against. (Though the caste system was outlawed, it dies slowly, Tom said.) The Hindus don't want to be Muslims, or to go to India to practice Hinduism, so many become Christians. In one service this year, James Sircar, Bengali Baptist evangelist, baptized 88.

"What will Lottie Moon buy for Bangladesh?" I asked. These things, among others: Bibles and Christian literature; cars for missionaries; a house for the Thurmans—already under construction; a motorcycle for Tom; a country boat, something like a pirogue, with a shelter on it and bunk beds. The Thurmans' prayer requests:

"Pray for Dorothy and James Halzar. He is new pastor of the Ghoshcher Baptist Church at Gopalganj. They studied at seminary in the Philippines. She too is well educated. As this is an isolated church, there will be a big adjustment for them. **Pray that the Bengali churches will continue to have a vision for reaching out, and will feel the joy of outreach. ***Pray for Amy Buckley, 16, who will be taking correspondence courses at home in Feni, rather than going to the far-away school in north India.

"The Bangladesh Baptist Fellowship has 48 churches," Tom said, "with 2,500 members. Our Bold Mission goal is 200 new churches by 1990. Already we have increased from 16 to 48, so we are on target."

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TOM AND GLORIA THURMAN, left, show to W. D. McWilliams a picture of a Bengali woman harvesting wheat. Thanks to U.S. government aid, wheat is now second to rice in Bangladesh.



Silent partner

Women's Missionary Union—Partners in Missions: Ashley McCaleb and Patricia Simmons, consultants, Mississippi WMU

Department, dispense popcorn to convention-goers. Their "silent partner" at the right is advertising the 1984 National Acteens Conference.

10 resolutions include race, lottery, hunger, pornography

The Mississippi Baptist Convention considered and passed 10 resolutions that were recommendations of its resolutions committee during the session last week. With the preliminary statements removed, the 10 resolutions are presented below.

Resolutions are statements by the convention. They represent only the statements of that particular convention and then are only the viewpoints of those messengers present and voting at the time the resolutions are passed. Nevertheless, they are looked upon as representing current Baptist thought on those subjects addressed.

Resolution on Raising The Legal Drinking Age to Twenty-One

Be It Resolved that once again we affirm our position as opposing any use of alcohol as a beverage, and

Be It Further Resolved that we oppose the advertising of any kind of alcohol beverage on television or radio, in newspapers or any media, and

Be It Further Resolved that we continue to educate our youth and others to the harmful effects of alcohol and other drug abuse, and

Be It Finally Resolved that we call upon the 1984 Mississippi Legislature to pass necessary legislation to raise the legal drinking age for all alcoholic beverages from eighteen to twenty-one.

We further encourage each church to communicate to its legislative delegation their concern about and support for such legislation.

Resolution On Opposing An Ambassador To The Vatican

Be It Resolved, That the 1983 session of the Mississippi Baptist Convention go on record as opposing the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and the Vatican; and

Be It Further Resolved, That the secretary of the Convention be instructed to send copies of this resolution to the President of the United States and all members of the Mississippi delegation to the United States Congress; and

Be It Finally Resolved, That we call on our churches to alert their people to the dangers inherent in this and any other attempt to violate the precious principle of separation of church and state.

Resolution On Race Relations

Be It Resolved, that the Mississippi Baptist Convention reaffirm its belief in the authoritative teachings of Scripture on matters of relations among races and ethnic groups, and encourage our churches so to teach and preach, and

Be It Further Resolved, that we encourage Mississippi Baptist congregations to promote harmony among the races by observing our denomination's "Race Relations Sunday" and "Human Relations Sunday" in February, and

Be It Further Resolved, that we encourage local congregations to develop ways of promoting better racial understanding by cultivating closer ties between Southern Baptist and Black Baptist congregations, and

Be It Finally Resolved, that we call on individual Baptists to work as citizens to promote governmental laws and policies which insure "justice for all."

Resolution On Hunger

Be It Resolved, that we encourage our churches to continue to increase their giving to world hunger through

our Southern Baptist Mission Boards, and

Be It Further Resolved, that we encourage Mississippi Baptists with special skills in nutrition, health, agriculture, economics, and other food-related fields, to seek out Mission Service Corps and career missions opportunities to fight hunger at home and abroad, and

Be It Finally Resolved, that we encourage individual Mississippi Baptists to engage in strong and active citizenship efforts to alleviate hunger.

Resolution On Pornography

Be It Resolved, that the messengers of the Mississippi Baptist Convention go on record as being diametrically opposed to pornography in any form; and

Be It Further Resolved, that we support the enactment of legislation that would curtail the sale of such material and support strict enforcement of all legislation to curb the invasion of pornography into our communities; and

Be It Further Resolved, that we commend the Christian Action Commission for its continued stance in opposition to pornography in any form and urge the churches to become involved in the continued fight against pornography.

Resolution On Gambling

Be It Resolved, that we make clear our opposition to gambling, viewing it as a danger to the economic and moral fiber of our state, and

Be It Further Resolved, that we encourage our churches to utilize their educational organizations to aggressively educate our people to the dangers and evils of gambling, and

Be It Finally Resolved, that we express our appreciation and support for those leaders in government who oppose gambling and make every effort to serve the people through good government.

Resolution On Opposing A State Lottery

Be It Resolved, That we encourage the Southern Baptist churches in Mississippi to formally oppose the establishment of a state lottery in Mississippi on the grounds that it is morally unacceptable, economically impractical, and fiscally irresponsible to the best interests of the people of Mississippi, and

Be It Further Resolved, that we encourage the Southern Baptist churches in Mississippi to formally oppose the establishment of a state lottery in Mississippi on the grounds that it is morally unacceptable, economically impractical, and fiscally irresponsible to the best interests of the people of Mississippi, and

Be It Finally Resolved, that we express our appreciation and support for those leaders in government who oppose gambling and make every effort to serve the people through good government.

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Mississippi Baptist Activities

- Dec. 4-11 Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering (WMU Emphasis)
- Dec. 5 Bible Drill Clinics; 7-9 p.m.; Grace Memorial BC, Gulfport/Baptist Center, Meridian/FBC, Beaumont/FBC, Columbia/FBC, Magee (CT)
- Dec. 5-6 Preaching Conference; Broadmoor BC, Jackson; 2 p.m., 5th-3:30 p.m., 6th (CAPM)
- Dec. 6 Bible Drill Clinics; 7-9 p.m.; FBC, Poplarville/Forest BC, Forest/FBC, Lucedale/Highland BC, Laurel/Associational Bldg., Philadelphia (CT)
- Dec. 8 Bible Drill Clinics; 7-9 p.m.; South McComb BC, McComb/Baptist Center, Natchez/FBC, Yazoo City/FBC, Crystal Springs/Woodland Hills BC, Jackson (CT)

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FMB prayer list full of great needs

(Continued from page 1)
tinique. After 19 years of work there are no national pastors. Their goal is to establish nine new churches and have 12 national pastors before 1990.

Pray that the radio and newspaper advertising of the upcoming evangelistic campaign in Lome, Togo, will attract many of the 400,000 citizens to the six Baptist churches. This six-day campaign in January will include

preaching, testimonies, special music, drama and the film, "Jesus."

Pray that this Christmas the men of Benin, Africa, will begin to accept the responsibility of evangelizing the women of Benin. So far the majority of persons won are men.

Pray for many conversions from the evangelistic crusade planned for early 1984 in the Turks and Caicos Islands

near Cuba. Missionaries are training pastors who will train lay leaders. The Trinidad and Tobago Baptist Association from islands near Venezuela also plan crusades for this time.

Pray for the following active missionaries who will face their first Christmas after the death of their mate: Donald Smith (Venezuela), Elaine Herrin (Grenada), Marshall Duncan (Kenya), Carl Hunker (Taiwan) and Susan Thompson (Ecuador). Ask for comfort and for God's direction in their future service.

Indonesian Baptists are in the middle of a five year Sunday School development program. Pray that many who attend Christmas Sunday School parties and church programs will continue with Bible study until they become believers in the Christ child.

Pray that Louisiana Baptists working as partners in missions in Zimbabwe will significantly push forward in evangelizing Zimbabweans. Projects include starting churches, rebuilding clinics and roads, educating through literacy and agriculture, and establishing nutritional villages, a grinding mill and cooperative stores.

Cooperative Program takes center

(Continued from page 1)
through the Cooperative Program and that we therefore call on and join with all Mississippi Baptists in seeking to elevate our giving through the Cooperative Program to make possible the realization of the Bold Mission Thrust goals."

Additionally, officers of the convention signed a Declaration of Cooperation, a special promotion of the Stewardship and Cooperative Program Promotion Department to promote the Cooperative Program.

The declaration points the way to the "Year of the Cooperative Program for 1983-84 in Mississippi."

Purpose of the special Year of the Cooperative Program emphasis is to (1) Teach the biblical and doctrinal foundations of missions; (2) Give a historical perspective of Baptists working together in support of missions; (3)

Provide information on what the Cooperative Program is, how it developed, and how it works; (4) Inform church members of Bold Mission Thrust goals and present a challenge for volunteers; (5) Lead the churches to a conviction that the Cooperative Program is the best way to fulfill the Great Commission; (6) Encourage prayer and support for Mississippi missionaries and for Southern Baptist mission ministries around the world.

Focus dates for this special emphasis, according to Julius Thompson, Cooperative Program consultant, will be April 1-15, 1984. Thompson will be mailing copies of the Declaration of Cooperation to all Mississippi churches and is suggesting that pastors lead members in signing the declarations on Cooperative Program Day which will be April 15.

BA train kills missionary

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (BP)—Southern Baptist missionary Kent W. Balyeat was killed in Buenos Aires when he walked in front of an express train late in the evening Nov. 21.

Balyeat, 58, was returning home from International Baptist Theological Seminary when he stepped off his bus and walked across the railroad tracks

nearby, apparently not seeing an oncoming train.

He and his wife, the former Lloydene Umstot of Kansas, were appointed missionaries in 1961. He had been director of the church music school at the seminary since 1977.

Mrs. Balyeat was to attend a memorial service at the seminary and burial in Buenos Aires before leaving Nov. 23 for Atlanta, Ga., where the family was to meet her.

A native of Alexandria, La., Balyeat was graduated from Ottaway (Kan.) University with the bachelor of arts degree: from Colorado State College (now University of Northern Colorado), Greeley, with the master of

arts degree; and from Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, with the master of church music degree.

Before his appointment he taught music in Kansas public schools and was music director for the churches in Oklahoma and Texas. He was professor of church music at the seminary in Buenos Aires for 15 years before becoming director.

Besides his wife he is survived by four children: Michael, of Fairfax, Ala.; Merry Carol and David, of Dallas, Texas; and Susan Keshtkar, of Austin, Texas. His mother, Mrs. Elbert Weir, lives in San Rafael, Calif.; and his sister, Mrs. Stanton Nash, lives in Fort Worth.

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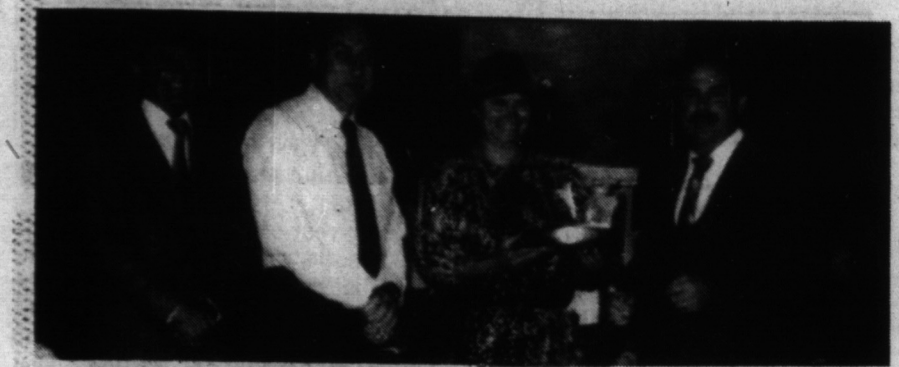
THE ACTEENS AND GIRLS IN ACTION OF EIGHTH AVENUE CHURCH, MERIDIAN, held a Coronation and Recognition Service on Oct. 30 at 7 p.m. with 11 GAs and six Acteens receiving awards, crowns, and scepters. Theme of the service was "God's Promise To Me." GA leaders are Mrs. Peggy Sullivan and Mrs. Linda Brown; Acteen leaders are Mrs. Kay Canterbury and Mrs. Kathy Holloman. Paul E. Earley is pastor.



GIRLS IN ACTION: left to right, front row: Tammy Harper, Michelle Kaufman, Amy Mosley, Cristi Pruitt, Wendy Craven, Cindy Sullivan, Brande Crenshaw. Back row, l.-r.: Christy Brown, Dawn Crenshaw, Sherri Butts, and Stacy Sullivan.



ACTEENS: left to right, back row: Tina Canterbury, Teresa Griffin, Jena Sullivan, Kim Pruitt, Jeri Sullivan, and Mary Caraway. Front row, crown-bearers, l.-r.: Shannon Partridge, Brandi Harper, Cathy Sullivan, Jennifer Craven, Tiffany Thomley, and Kristi Beddingfield.



FIRST CHURCH, GUNTOWN, recently held a note burning for the ending of debt on its pastorum. The \$45,000 home was paid for in a three-year period. The congregation is now starting a major renovation of its church building, to be completed in several stages, and is studying plans for possible construction of a new education building. Left to right are the Building Committee members: Jimmy Bryson, Charlie Magers, Pat Jeter, and Barry Ward, pastor. The building program was started when Mike Carr was pastor.

Parkway Church, Natchez, has oversubscribed its record 1964 budget of \$452,331. This is the eighth consecutive year that it has been oversubscribed. The announcement was made on Nov. 6, Victory Day, by Curtis King, director of the Church's Forward Program of Church Finance for this year. A total of \$460,696 has been pledged to the financial support of the church for the coming year. There were 531 commitment cards returned

by the membership.

Highlights of this year's Forward Program included a church-wide fellowship dinner (with Dan McBride as guest entertainer) and a children's party. Over 700 attended these. Serving as committee chairmen for the 1963-64 Forward Program were Bill Harris, Mrs. Herman Merritt, Joe Hartley, Mrs. Irene Loflin, Mrs. Joey Porter, Mr. and Mrs. Gary Dunaway, Bill Campbell, and James Waycaster.



LAKELAND CHURCH AT MANTACHIE in Itawamba County held a recognition service for Acteens on the theme, "Go Ye." Acteens crowned were, left to right: Natalie Ellis, Kim Holland, Christy Reynolds, and Rose Poteet. Mission Friends who were crown bearers were Megan Spreading, Natalie Wilburn, Amy Tyra, and Angela Woodridge. Mrs. Sandra Ashley and Mrs. Barbara Reynolds are Acteen leaders.

The Spanish Mission of First Church, Biloxi, is now sharing facilities with the Northward Church, which makes it more centrally located for Spanish-speaking persons living on the Gulf Coast.

Revival Dates

Corinth (Jasper): Dec. 11-16; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; during week at 7 p.m.; Gary Bowlin of Brandon, bringing the messages; Edd Holoman, pastor.

Castlewoods Church (Rankin): Dec. 4-7; Anis Shorosh, evangelist; Cecil L. Harper, minister of music at the church, in charge of the music; Fred Fowler, pastor; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., with a fellowship time after the evening service; Monday night, pizza supper for youths at 6; Tuesday night, children's hot-dog supper at 6; Wednesday night, Bring-Your-Neighbor night for a covered dish supper at 6; services Mon.-Wed. at 7 p.m. (Shorosh, born in Nazareth, fled on cardboard after his father was killed in the Arab-Israeli War. He became a refugee in Jordan, where he became a Christian. Through missionaries, he came to America to study at Clarke College, Mississippi College, and New Orleans Seminary.

Last year, more than 94 million people heard the gospel by means of local Baptist radio broadcasts and telecasts produced and aired across the world.

Employee's mother, grandson die

Mrs. Julia Logan, 87, died Nov. 7 at Magee. She was the mother of Walter Logan, of Jackson, who is on the staff of the Building Services Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Funeral services were held Nov. 11 at the Church of God in Christ at Magee. Survivors in addition to Walter are six other sons and five daughters, 46 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren, and 10 great-great-grandchildren.

Marcus Logan, age 22, grandson of Walter Logan, died Nov. 15 in Chicago, Ill., the morning after returning home from his great grandmother's funeral in Mississippi. He was a native of Mississippi, the son of Walter Logan Jr., who is on the staff at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly and lives at Gulfport. His funeral was held Nov. 19 at Smith's Chapel Baptist Church, Jackson. Burial was at Willow Park Cemetery, Jackson.

Rice sent Filipinos

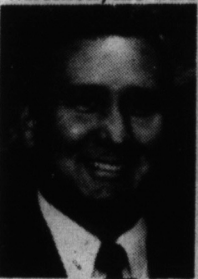
MINDANAO, Philippines—More than 10,000 Filipino families, many of whom have been forced to eat their livestock and seed during an extended drought, have received 5,672 bags of rice from Southern Baptists this year.

Baptist missionaries and Filipinos on the island of Mindanao received \$80,000 in World Hunger Funds to provide fruit trees, fertilizer, portions of seed corn for planting and two weeks worth of rations. All were for areas where no other organization was responding.

Bruce G. Jolly is the new pastor of First Church, Sardis (Panola). He and his wife, Dot, and two sons moved there from Sandersville. He is a graduate of Union University, Jackson, Tenn., and Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex. He was BSU director at Northwest Mississippi Junior College, Senatobia, 1965-1967, and since then has served pastorates in Mississippi.

Gregg Thomas is the new pastor of Chesterville Church, Tupelo. In addition, he is the BSU director at Itawamba Junior College. He and his wife, Lisa, are natives of Tupelo and he is a graduate of Blue Mountain College. He is a former pastor of the Peoples Church, Ripley, and has held positions as associate pastor and minister of youth with churches in Alcorn, Montgomery, and Lee counties.

Parkway Church, Houston, has called Dan Wilemon of Tupelo as pastor. Wilemon, his wife, Ann, and their two daughters moved onto the church field in August. Wilemon was in evangelism from 1979 until August, 1983. He had been pastor in Mississippi and North Carolina for ten years prior to this.



Wilemon He is a graduate of Blue Mountain College and attended Southeastern Seminary, Wake Forest, N. C. Parkway since August has added 21 on profession of faith and 15 by letter. Church Training has broken attendance records.

Convention Board member dies

R. S. McCrory, 69, died at home in Macon, Tuesday, Nov. 22, of a heart attack. Services were at 10 a.m., Nov. 23, at the First Baptist Church, Macon. McCrory was Noxubee Association's representative on the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

He was a native of McAdams and had lived in Macon for 32 years. He was a deacon, a Marine veteran of World War II and retired executive director of the ASCS. He was county missionary for the Noxubee Baptist Association for six years.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mary Giles McCrory; a daughter, Mrs. Beverly Smitherman of Starkville; sons, Douglas L. McCrory of Morehead and Mike McCrory of Greenville; seven grandchildren; four sisters; three brothers.

James Spencer, pastor of First Church, Morton, for four years, has resigned to accept the pastorate of West Heights Church, Pontotoc. He is a native of Itawamba County and a graduate of Belmont College, University of Southern Mississippi, New Orleans Seminary, and Luther Rice Seminary. Before going to Morton, he was pastor of the Sherman Church, and for eleven years he was on the faculty of Clarke College.

Rick Breland has been called as youth minister of Sharon Church, Gulf Coast. He moved there from First Church, Dallas, Tex., and has been on the field for several months.

James C. Hall is the new pastor of Airport Church, Grenada. He and his wife, Alice, and three children were welcomed with a pounding on Nov. 13. His last pastorate was in Tallahatchie Association.

Roy McHenry accepted the pastorate of the First Church, Okolona, and has been serving in that capacity since Sept. 4.

Thomas Winn has accepted the call as youth minister at Briarwood Drive Church, Jackson. He formerly served at Trinity in Jones Association. The church welcomed Thomas, his wife, LaWanda, and their daughter, Bethany, with a fellowship on Nov. 6. Their new address is 5600 Keele Street, Apartment 2907, Jackson, Miss 39206.

Briarwood Drive Church, Jackson has called Tom Nettles as interim pastor. Nettles is a graduate of Mississippi College and received master's and Ph.D. degrees from Southwestern Seminary. He has held teaching positions at Southwestern and is currently associate professor of church history and chairman of this department at Mid-America Seminary in Memphis. He began his interim pastorate at Briarwood Drive Nov. 20.

Sarah Church, Sarah: Dec. 4; Harvest Day; homecoming; dinner on the grounds; Mrs. Joan Atkinson, treasurer, said, "We want on this day to express appreciation and thanks for each gift that's been given, and to the men who gave the labor on the new building."

THE VILLAGE VIEW

FROM
Baptist Children's Village
P. O. Box 11308 Jackson, MS 39213

Gifts of Honor and Memory October 26 - November 25

A portion of the Village View is allocated each month to a listing of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many gifts and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

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Church
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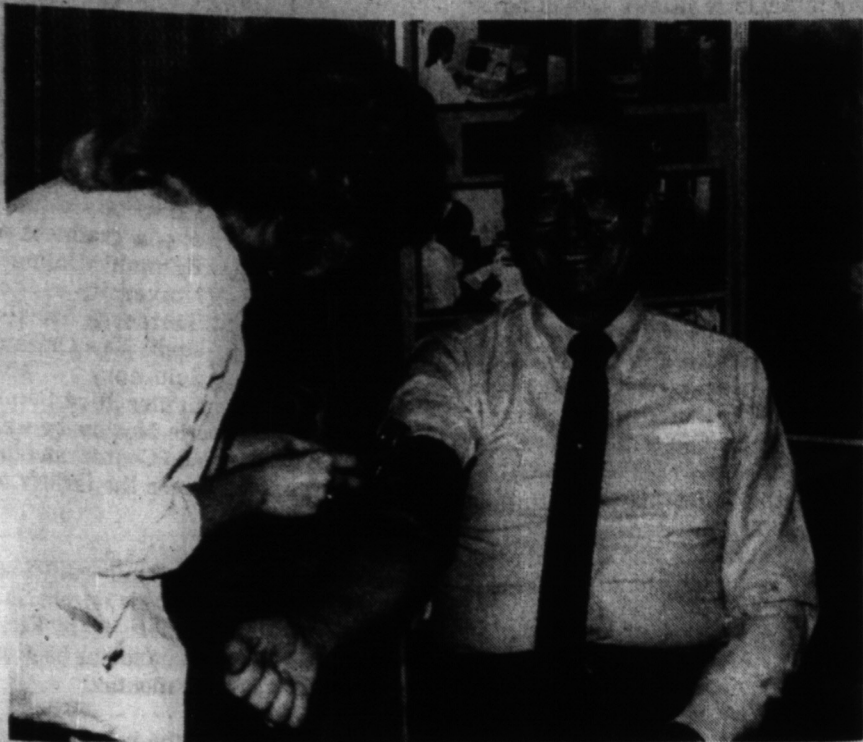
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Convention scenes



Wiley Reed, pastor, Friendship Church, Lincoln County, gets his blood pressure taken at the convention booth operated by personnel from Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, Jackson.



College presidents get together to compare notes. In the circle are President and Mrs. Harold Fisher of Blue Mountain College, left, and President and Mrs. Ralph Noonkester, William Carey College.



Roy Raddin, left, director of missions, Washington Association, and his son, David Raddin, stop by the Foreign Mission Board exhibit to ask a question of Hal Lee, right, missionary to France who is now on furlough and living in Jackson.



Bill Baker, left, pastor, First, Clinton, listens to W. R. Roberts, Jackson, former Annuity Board representative for Mississippi, now retired.



Chuck Waddle, 2, looks at a Bible story book in the Baptist Book Store display at the convention, while his mother, Mrs. Dudley Waddle, tells him what the story is about. His dad is pastor of Bradford's Chapel Church, Calhoun County.

Beirut school opens and closes, other work goes on

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—Beirut Baptist School in west Beirut opened as planned Nov. 2 with about 700 students, the usual student load. But shelling in the area Nov. 15 prompted the government to call off classes the next two days, apparently so the children would not be endangered while traveling to and from school.

Arab Baptist Seminary in Monsouriyeh, on the east side of Beirut, opened Oct. 18 with nine students, despite heavy shelling.

Baptist Publications, also based in Monsouriyeh, completed the first Arabic translation of MasterLife discipleship materials in time to field test them in a workshop in Nicosia, Cyprus.

Isam Ballenger, Foreign Mission Board director for Europe and the Middle East, said the workshop drew Arab Baptists from across the Middle East, including some from Israel. Ballenger reported first-term mis-

sionaries James and Stephanie Betha have moved from west Beirut to Sidon, a coastal city to the south about midway between Beirut and the Israeli border.

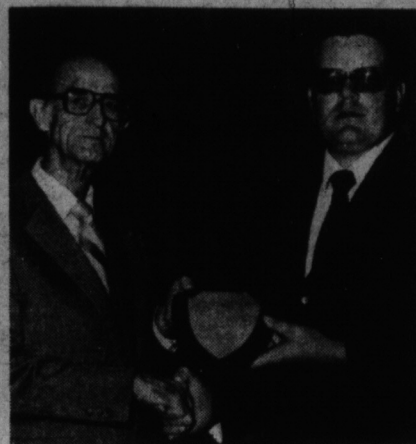
The couple feel they have more freedom of movement in Sidon and the opportunities for student work are greater there, Ballenger said.

Moon appeals

NEW YORK (EP)—The Unification Church announced Nov. 3 it would ask the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn the tax-evasion conviction of its founder, Sun Myung Moon, saying his prosecution threatens all religious liberty.

Moon was sentenced July 16, 1982, to 18 months in prison and fined \$25,000 after a federal jury found him guilty of evading \$162,000 in taxes on income from a bank account and an importing business.

Names in the News



L. GORDON SANSING, left, was recently honored by his home church, County Line, near Union, for 50 years of service in the gospel ministry. Bobby Barfoot, pastor, right, presented a plaque. Sansing is a Neshoba County native and was ordained at County Line on Sept. 15, 1933. He retired from the pastorate of Collinsville Church recently. He and his wife, Polly, live in Meridian and he speaks often for revivals, Bible studies, banquets, pulpit supply, and in interim pastorates. He was graduated from Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary. In addition to his pastorates in the state, he has also served as director of Cooperative Missions Department and director of the Evangelism Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. (Photo by James Land).



BETHANY CHURCH, LAUDERDALE COUNTY, on Oct. 16 licensed TERRY GOODMAN to the gospel ministry. He has been serving the Bethany Church as music director. Goodman is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Leland Goodman of Clarke County. The morning message was delivered by Goodman. James E. Walker, right, interim pastor, presented the certificate of license. Goodman, at left, is available for pulpit supply. He may be contacted by phone at 644-3638.



EUGENE WALDEN, right, pastor of New Prospect (Tishomingo) recently presented a plaque to RONNIE GAMBLE in recognition of his 17 years of perfect attendance in Sunday School. Gamble is Sunday School director, deacon, and church treasurer of New Prospect Church.

Devotional

Just one thing

By David E. Hall, pastor, First, West Point

And she will bear a Son; and you shall call his name Jesus, for it is he who will save his people from their sins" (Matt. 1:21 NAS).

A few years ago, a cousin of mine took his four-year-old daughter to see Santa Claus, but when it was her turn to sit on his knee she was overcome by a sudden attack of stage fright. When Santa asked her what she wanted for Christmas she hurriedly said, "A doll," and made a fast getaway. Later, she regretted her timidity and could be heard mumbling in that sad but sweet childish way, "I'm dit gone git dat one ting." That meant, of course, she had to be taken back to Santa's knee where, like Dennis the Menace, she let it be known that she wanted at least one of everything.

Children rarely expect to receive just one thing for Christmas, but on the other hand, neither do most grown-ups! We expect many things while tending to forget that Christmas after all is really about just one thing. Christmas is about the birth of Jesus, our Savior, about whom the angel said to Joseph, "It is he." Christmas is not this, that, and the other. It is He!

Peter confessed to Jesus, "Thou art THE Christ, THE Son of THE living God" (Matt. 16:16). But in less than a week Peter had to be reminded again to focus his faith on Jesus only, as God the Father spoke out of the cloud to say, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to him!" (Matt. 17:5). Repeatedly, because we need to be reminded often, New Testament witnesses from heaven and from earth point to Jesus to say to us, "It is he, it is he, it is he!"

This is the one thing Christmas is really about. We truly celebrate Christmas when we call the name of Jesus and dare to believe that "It is he" who is the one supreme and indescribable gift from God to man.

Bible Book

Together for the gospel

By Harry L. Lucenay, Temple, Hattiesburg
Philippians 1:27 to 2:30

What a man believes determines how he behaves. Wrong belief ultimately means a wrong life. Each local church is but one generation short of potential extinction. Christians must work together to further the good news of Jesus Christ in each age.

The conduct of the Christian (1:27-30)—Christ has placed strong ethical/moral demands upon his followers. The practical everyday sphere of life includes the home, job, school, neighborhood, athletic field, recreation location as well as the church. There is no room for "wishy-washy" convictions. Men must stand for their convictions with their fellow Christians. Together they bear burdens and receive encouragement. Christians are not persons who major in believing, who delight in correct doctrine and systematic positions. Rather, they are persons who entrust themselves to him whom the gospel proclaims as Lord and seek to live as worthy citizens of his Kingdom.

The coherence of the church (2:1-4)—The basis for unity and encouragement is found in Christ. The strong, support body which relates Christ's encouragement is the church. What the grace of Christ supplies, the love of God bestows and in the fellowship of the church the Spirit does his creative work. This creative work is always done in the context of active and expressive love. This love is characterized by a unit of mind which brings joy to the pastoral heart of Paul. When two men differ in kind, in measure of native talent, in nature, in measure of information, in degrees of culture, in character of opinions, in beliefs, are united in Christ, souls are knit together and the kingdom of God is enlarged. This happens because both men are deeply in love with the same Lord Jesus. They have allowed him to harness their energies and unite their hearts. The weights of selfishness and conceit are cast aside and men become obsessed with what they can do for others in Jesus' name.

Most church difficulties arise when men inflate their importance and seek to be the center of all activity. The church functions best when everybody is trying to meet the needs of everybody else. When men seek only to be served, they disobey the clear teaching of the Bible (2:3, 4). Men must develop Christ-like selflessness.

The Christ's example (2:5-9)—These verses from an early Christian hymn present the servant example of the Savior. Since outlook determines outcome, it is imperative that the Christ-

ian have the "mind" of Christ. One must think the same thing in himself that he thinks in Jesus. Then he will apply the same rule in his life that he sees and approves in Jesus.

Verse 6 begins the beautiful expression of the humiliation of Jesus. Caird suggests the clearest restatement of it: "Christ, being in the form of God, was equal with God, but did not count this a prize to be clutched." When Christ emptied himself, he laid aside rank, prestige, and dignity to become as nothing in respect to these. The shape of the incarnation is here described as humiliation, weakness, and obedience.

When Christ took the form of a servant, he did not become the actual slave of any single man, but was an actual servant of mankind. The master of all became the servant of all. The essence of the mind of Christ was his disposition not to grasp at equality with God but rather to be "obedient unto death." The test of the Christian's ability to follow the example of Christ must be a willingness to share the sufferings of Christ and to give sacrificially as Christ did.

Life is found by losing it and God highly exalted the one who was willing to be self-denying, humbled, and obedient. The "name" reflects the character and status of the individual. God's Kingdom must be absolute and the Lordship of Christ must eventually be acknowledged everywhere. This passage does not guarantee universal salvation, but it does promise the universal Lordship of Christ.

The commitment of Christians (2:12-14)—Men cannot work out what God has not worked in. The concept of working out one's salvation is the idea of bringing it to maturity or completion. Salvation must make a difference in the way a man lives. That Christian man will seek to grow in the grace and knowledge of his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Therefore, God works in a man, then he works through him. Obedience comes not because there is pressure from the outside but because there is power on the inside.

One strong verse speaks of the spirit which should accompany the work. There is to be no murmuring and disputing. No church should resemble old McDonald's barnyard with "here a gripe-gripe, there a gripe-gripe, everywhere a gripe-gripe." When men work with the mind of Christ, putting others first, and seeking to serve rather than be served, they must let God's positive Spirit control their hearts, tongues, and actions.

Uniform

New day for God's people

By Clarence H. Cutrell, Jackson
Isaiah 2:1-5; 62; 65:17-25

It is highly possible that no man, past or present, had as much going for him as did Isaiah. A man with a giant intellect, a winning personality, a deep and growing sense of commitment to God, an understanding of human nature, a profound insight into the will and purposes of God, he was able to develop his God-given prophetic power to such extent that he could see in history not only the unravellings of the strands of the past, but also the forming of the intricate and beautiful tapestry of God's eternal day.

It should be a rewarding and pleasant study to look into some select passages out of the 66 chapters of the book which bears his name.

1. The high road to peace (Isa. 2:1-5). These verses from Isaiah not only give a bright hope for the future of God's people in Old Testament times as well as today, they also state most clearly God's purpose, first through his chosen nation and now through his church. The Lord's house is to be established on the highest point of the mountain where all might see how God's people live, as a "city set on a hill." Its light is to shine forth with such brilliance that none can fail to see it and multitudes will be drawn into it. This shall be accomplished when God's people in obedience to his word go out to extend the gospel invitation to "come ye, and let us go up to . . . the house of the God of Jacob." This invitation includes the privilege of joining this people to learn of his ways and seeing a demonstration of how to "walk in his paths" based upon a knowledge of, and love for his word.

As his people walk this high road, the nations will discover that it is the high road to peace. The great arsenals and weapons of death and destruction will no longer be necessary. The immeasurable riches of the world will be directed toward producing a better kind of life for all of the peoples of the world.

Perhaps the most significant statement in the text is: "Neither shall they learn war any more." To learn war is to produce a desire to wage war. Let us thank God today for all of the peace efforts being made and pray for the success of these efforts. And as we pray let us tread that "narrow path that leads to life" and discover that it is the high road to peace.

2. The royal road to glory (Isa. 62:1-3). As we observe world events and consider the spread of crime, immorality, and spiritual stupor, we are prone to ask, "When is God going to do some-

thing?" A more appropriate question perhaps is, "When are we going to do something about it?" The verses under consideration assure us that God is at work to remedy the situation. He states that he will not hold his peace nor will he rest until the righteousness of Zion and Jerusalem goes forth as brightness—not like a flashlight going on and off, but the constant glow of a burning zeal which cannot be quenched.

Some interpreters feel that the effort of God referred to here is expended toward the nations of the world. But my conception is that he continues to rebuke, exhort, and challenge his people until by choice they begin to live for him. When they do, "the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness . . . thou shalt be called by a new name . . . thou shalt also be a crown of glory in the hand of the Lord."

If God's people would indeed dare to travel along this royal road of glory, they would discover that the nations of the world would take note and be drawn to walk in the same way. What changes would be wrought if the United States would present to the world the redeemed lives of multitudes of its citizens as its greatest glory, rather than its material wealth and its victories in war!

3. The joyful road to new life (Isa. 65:17-19). When once the people of God have dared to trudge the high and rugged road to peace and have paid the price necessary to being called the "crown of glory in the hand of the Lord" they will discover that rather than representing a bothersome chore or discouraging drudgery, the royal road to glory will lead directly into the joyful road to new life. For our God says here, near the close of the book of Isaiah, that he will "create Jerusalem a rejoicing and her people a joy." Burdens will be lifted, strength will be supplied, and the water that Jesus will give us will become "a well of water springing up into everlasting life" (John 4:14b).

These verses will not find complete fulfillment until the last days. But this facts does not prevent us from receiving a foretaste of the joy and assurance they bring. Neither should it cause us to rob the world of the gospel which can bring such joy to all who believe.

"But to every man there openeth a high way and a low."

And every man decideth the way his soul shall go."—(John Oxenham).

One Baptist student center in Indonesia, a Muslim country, was consistently visited by 300 students a day last year.

Life and Work

Sinfulness

By Larry W. Fields, Harrisburg, Tupelo
2 Samuel 12:1-5, 7a, 9, 13-14

The Bible never glosses over or seeks to minimize the sins of the characters of the Bible. This was true of David. There were many commendable traits in their great man of God. He was a man after God's own heart (1 Samuel 13:14), yet he was guilty of two of the worst sins, adultery and murder.

The story of David's sin with Bathsheba and his murder of her husband, Uriah, is well known to most Bible students. It is unfortunate that the man who led Israel to become a strong and major power in the face of military enemies would fall victim to the enemy within.

It all started when David was idle and restless while walking along the roof of his palace. His troops were fighting the Ammonites, but he remained in Jerusalem. He observed a beautiful woman on another roof washing herself, and her beauty attracted him. He could have turned away, but he yielded to his lust. David had Bathsheba come in to him while her husband was fighting with Joab in David's army. Following their adulterous affair, she sent word to David that she was pregnant.

In an effort to cover his sin, he called for Uriah to return to Jerusalem in hopes that he could be with his wife and later assume the child was his. This plan failed when Uriah refused to go in to his wife because his men remained at battle and could not be with their wives; therefore, it would be unfair. Frustrated by Uriah's actions, David had him return to the battle under Joab with sealed orders for Joab to place him at the forefront of the battle. As a result, Uriah was killed and David thought he was off the hook. After a brief period of mourning, Bathsheba became one of David's wives. David thought that he succeeded in hiding his sin, but as is always true, the Lord knew (2 Samuel 11:27).

(1) The confrontation (2 Samuel 12:1-5, 7a, 9)

God called the prophet, Nathan, to confront David with his sin. The prophet took an indirect approach by using a parable and allowing the king to pronounce judgment on himself. David had been a shepherd and could identify with the poor man whose family had made their one lamb a pet. His anger was kindled toward the rich man who ignored his many sheep and butchered the poor man's lamb for a feast. He pronounced the death sentence on the wealthy man who had been so selfish and sinful. David, like us, could easily see and condemn the sins of others. Yet we, like David, have difficulty seeing our own sin.

Nathan pointed his finger at the king and said, "Thou art the man." These words jolted David into reality. He could no longer rationalize his sin. He could no longer use the excuse that "everyone was doing it." Other kings acted in the same way without the slightest hesitation, but David was God's man and king of God's chosen people. He knew better and he knew he had done a great wrong.

2. The confession (2 Samuel 11:13a)
David did not try to give excuses or alibis; neither did he deny his guilt. He was humiliated and ashamed, and he immediately admitted that he had sinned. Others might have condemned Nathan and continued the effort to hide their sin, but David did not. Psalm 51 gives a detailed account of his confession and repentance. He had sinned against the Lord and only the Lord could forgive him.

After sincere repentance, Christians can be sure that their sin and guilt can be taken away by Christ's atonement on the cross.

3. The restoration (2 Samuel 11:13b-14)
Nathan responded to David's confession by giving the word of forgiveness, "The Lord has taken away your sin." His repentance was accepted and blessed by the Lord. He would be restored to a rightful relationship with God and would remain king over God's people; however, David could not escape the consequences of his sin. The child born of this illicit relationship would die. There were other consequences as his family would have to cope with constant conflicts and difficulties in future years.

True repentance allows people to renew their broken relationships with God; however, it does not remove the inevitable consequences of those sins.

"All have sinned and come short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:23). But "if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

Tongues ban lifted

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. (EP)—Campus Crusade for Christ, a conservative, non-charismatic evangelical campus ministry, has altered its staff policy on speaking in tongues. In a memo from Campus Crusade president Bill Bright, staff members were informed that a ban on speaking in tongues, in effect for almost 20 years, has been lifted.